

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 10

Serial No.: 09/552117

Filing Date: April 19, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 125.037US01

Title: ACCESSING MAIN ATX OUTPUTS WITHOUT MONITORING ALL OUTPUTS

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6, 11-14 and 16-22 are amended. Claims 1-25 are pending in this application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(a)

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being unpatentable over National LM2637. A rejection under 102 requires that the reference teach every aspect of the claimed invention.

Claim 1

In regards to independent Claim 1, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to clarify the first and second voltages are primary power voltages. In regards to primary voltages please refer to page 4, lines 21-22 of the present application which states in reference to Figure 1, "[i]ts nine outputs include a 5-volt standby output and three primary voltage outputs of 12, 5 and 3.3 volts." Claim 1 includes the limitation "means for delaying connection of the first primary and secondary primary power voltages to the controlled voltage power outputs for a selected delay time after the first primary power voltage reaches the reference threshold level." The LM2637 reference does not teach "means for delaying connection of the first primary and secondary primary power voltages to the controlled voltage power outputs for a selected delay time after the first primary power voltage reaches the reference threshold level," as is disclosed and claimed in Claim 1 of the present application. Please refer to the function of Vcc illustrated in the figures and tables of the LM2637 reference (and in particular the Block diagram on page 5) and the discussion of the soft-start up on pages 7 and 8 of the present application. Moreover, please refer to page 9, second column, Power Good Signal paragraph of the LM2637, the LM2637 reference states "[A]t the completion of soft start, **all three output voltages are checked and the PWGD pin will be asserted if they are all within the specified range,**" emphasis added. Moreover, please refer to page 8, second column, Start Up paragraph of the LM2637 reference, the LM2637 reference further states, "PWRGD pin is always low during soft start and is turned over to the output monitoring circuitry after that." In addition, please refer to the Block Diagram on page 5, and in particular the circuitry coupled to PWRGD pin. As stated above, the LM2637 reference does not teach each element of what is claimed in Claim 1 of the present application. Therefore,

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 11

Serial No.: 09/552117

Filing Date: April 19, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 125.037US01

Title: ACCESSING MAIN ATX OUTPUTS WITHOUT MONITORING ALL OUTPUTS

since not every element is taught by the LM2637 reference, the 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection is improper.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Moreover, since Claims 2-5 depend from and further define patentably distinct Claim 1, Applicant asserts that these claims are also allowable and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 2-5. Since dependant claims 2-5 are believed allowable for the above reasons, Applicant has not addressed further rejections to the dependant claims but retains the right to address said rejections if a future response is necessary.

Claim 6

In regards to independent Claim 6, Applicant has amended Claim 6 to clarify the first and second power voltages are primary power voltages. In regards to primary voltages please refer to page 4, lines 21-22 of the present application which states in reference to Figure 1, "[i]ts nine outputs include a 5-volt standby output and three primary voltage outputs of 12, 5 and 3.3 volts."

Claim 6 includes the limitation "means for delaying connection of the controlled power output voltages to the computer for a selected delay time after the first primary power voltage reaches the reference threshold level." The LM2637 reference does not teach "means for delaying connection of the controlled power output voltages to the computer for a selected delay time after the first primary power voltage reaches the reference threshold level," as is disclosed and claimed in Claim 6 of the present application. Please refer to the function of Vcc illustrated in the figures and tables of the LM2637 reference (and in particular the Block diagram on page 5) and the discussion of the soft-start up on pages 7 and 8 of the present application. Moreover, referring to page 9, second column, Power Good Signal paragraph of the LM2637, the LM2637 reference states "[A]t the completion of soft start, all three output voltages are checked and the PWGD pin will be asserted if they are all within the specified range," emphasis added. Also, please refer to page 8, second column, Start Up paragraph of the LM2637 reference, the LM2637 reference further states, "PWRGD pin is always low during soft start and is turned over to the output monitoring circuitry after that." In addition, please refer to the Block Diagram on page 5, and in particular the circuitry coupled to PWRGD pin. This is not what is disclosed or claimed in

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 12

Serial No.: 09/552117

Filing Date: April 19, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 125.037US01

Title: ACCESSING MAIN ATX OUTPUTS WITHOUT MONITORING ALL OUTPUTS

Claim 6 of the present application. Therefore, not every element is taught by the LM2637 reference as is required under a 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Moreover, since Claims 7-10 depend from and further define patentably distinct Claim 6, Applicant asserts that these claims are also allowable and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 7-10. Since dependant claims 7-10 are believed allowable for the above reasons, Applicant has not addressed further rejections to the dependant claims but retains the right to address said rejections if a future response is necessary.

Claim 11

In regards to independent Claim 11, Applicant has amended Claim 11 to clarify the first and second power voltages are primary power voltages. In regards to primary voltages please refer to page 4, lines 21-22 of the present application which states in reference to Figure 1, "[i]ts nine outputs include a 5-volt standby output and three primary voltage outputs of 12, 5 and 3.3 volts." Claim 11 includes the limitation "delaying connection of the power supply controlled voltage power outputs for a selected delay time after the first primary power output voltage reaches the reference threshold level." The LM2637 reference does not teach "delaying connection of the power supply controlled voltage power outputs for a selected delay time after the first primary power output voltage reaches the reference threshold level," as is disclosed and claimed in Claim 11 of the present application. Please refer to the function of Vcc illustrated in the figures and tables of the LM2637 reference (and in particular the Block diagram on page 5) and the discussion of the soft-start up on pages 7 and 8 of the present application. Moreover, referring to page 9, second column, Power Good Signal paragraph of the LM2637, the LM2637 reference states "[A]t the completion of soft start, all three output voltages are checked and the PWGD pin will be asserted if they are all within the specified range," emphasis added. Also, please refer to page 8, second column, Start Up paragraph of the LM2637 reference, the LM2637 reference further states, "PWRGD pin is always low during soft start and is turned over to the output monitoring circuitry after that." In addition, please refer to the Block Diagram on page 5, and in particular the circuitry coupled to PWRGD pin. This is not what is disclosed or claimed

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 13

Serial No.: 09/552117

Filing Date: April 19, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 125.037US01

Title: ACCESSING MAIN ATX OUTPUTS WITHOUT MONITORING ALL OUTPUTS

in Claim 11 of the present application. Therefore, not every element is taught by the LM2637 reference as is required under a 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Moreover, since Claims 12-15 depend from and further define patentably distinct Claim 11, Applicant asserts that these claims are also allowable and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 12-15. Since dependant claims 12-15 are believed allowable for the above reasons, Applicant has not addressed further rejections to the dependant claims but retains the right to address said rejections if a future response is necessary.

Claims 16-25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being unpatentable over National LM2637.

Claim 16

In regards to independent Claim 16, Applicant has amended Claim 16 to clarify the first and second power voltages are primary power voltages. In regards to primary voltages please refer to page 4, lines 21-22 of the present application which states in reference to Figure 1, "[i]ts nine outputs include a 5-volt standby output and three primary voltage outputs of 12, 5 and 3.3 volts." Claim 16 includes the limitation "a time delay circuit adapted to delay an output of the one or more secondary primary voltages by a select period of time once the first primary voltage equals or exceeds the reference voltage." The LM2637 reference does not teach "a time delay circuit adapted to delay an output of the one or more secondary primary voltages by a select period of time once the first primary voltage equals or exceeds the reference voltage," as is disclosed and claimed in Claim 16 of the present application. Please refer to the function of Vcc illustrated in the figures and tables of the LM2637 reference (and in particular the Block diagram on page 5) and the discussion of the soft-start up on pages 7 and 8 of the present application. Moreover, referring to page 9, second column, Power Good Signal paragraph of the LM2637, the LM2637 reference states "[A]t the completion of soft start, all three output voltages are checked and the PWGD pin will be asserted if they are all within the specified range," emphasis added. Also, please refer to page 8, second column, Start Up paragraph of the LM2637 reference, the LM2637 reference further states, "PWRGD pin is always low during soft start and

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 14

Serial No.: 09/552117

Filing Date: April 19, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 125.037US01

Title: ACCESSING MAIN ATX OUTPUTS WITHOUT MONITORING ALL OUTPUTS

is turned over to the output monitoring circuitry after that." In addition, please refer to the Block Diagram on page 5, and in particular the circuitry coupled to PWRGD pin. This is not what is disclosed or claimed in Claim 16 of the present application. Therefore, not every element is taught by the LM2637 reference as is required under a 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Moreover, since Claims 17-20 depend from and further define patentably distinct Claim 16, Applicant asserts that these claims are also allowable and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 17-20. Since dependant claims 17-20 are believed allowable for the above reasons, Applicant has not addressed further rejections to the dependant claims but retains the right to address said rejections if a future response is necessary.

Claim 21

In regards to independent Claim 21, Applicant has amended Claim 21 to clarify the first and second power voltages are primary power voltages. In regards to primary voltages please refer to page 4, lines 21-22 of the present application which states in reference to Figure 1, "[i]ts nine outputs include a 5-volt standby output and three primary voltage outputs of 12, 5 and 3.3 volts." Claim 21 includes the limitation "a time delay circuit adapted to delay the coupling of the two or more voltages to the outputs for a select period of time after the comparator has sensed the one voltage received on the first input equals or exceeds the reference voltage." The LM2637 reference does not teach, neither explicitly nor inherently, "a time delay circuit adapted to delay the coupling of the two or more voltages to the outputs for a select period of time after the comparator has sensed the one voltage received on the first input equals or exceeds the reference voltage," as is disclosed and claimed in Claim 21 of the present application. Please refer to the function of Vcc illustrated in the figures and tables of the LM2637 reference (and in particular the Block diagram on page 5) and the discussion of the soft-start up on pages 7 and 8 of the present application. Moreover, referring to page 9, second column, Power Good Signal paragraph of the LM2637, the LM2637 reference states "[A]t the completion of soft start, all three output voltages are checked and the PWGD pin will be asserted if they are all within the specified range," emphasis added. Moreover, please refer to page 8, second column, Start Up paragraph of the LM2637 reference, the LM2637 reference further states, "PWRGD pin is

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

PAGE 15

Serial No.: 09/552117

Filing Date: April 19, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 125.037US01

Title: ACCESSING MAIN ATX OUTPUTS WITHOUT MONITORING ALL OUTPUTS

always low during soft start and is turned over to the output monitoring circuitry after that." In addition, please refer to the Block Diagram on page 5, and in particular the circuitry coupled to PWRGD pin. This is not what is disclosed or claimed in Claim 21 of the present application. Therefore, not every element is taught by the LM2637 reference as is required under a 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Moreover, since Claims 22-25 depend from and further define patentably distinct Claim 16, Applicant asserts that these claims are also allowable and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 22-25. Since dependant claims 22-25 are believed allowable for the above reasons, Applicant has not addressed further rejections to the dependant claims but retains the right to address said rejections if a future response is necessary.

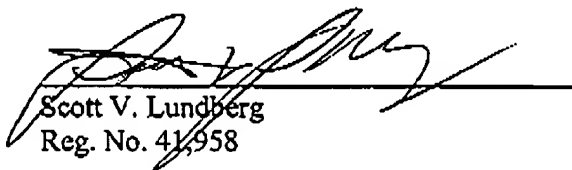
CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-25 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 332-4720.

If necessary, please charge and additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 502432.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4-10-03


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